

Aurora

“Priya” & “Nikki” Character Description

**Priya & Nikki, FEMALE, seeking real kid or teen to play 9-year-old twins, South Asian *Series
Regulars**

Twin Heroines and mirrors of one another

Independent, kind, and resourceful. **Priya** is a reluctant hero who avoids altercations or fighting, but still believes in helping people using her creativity and wits. She’s a talented musician and loves to make up songs with her tanbur (guitar-like instrument). Priya became an amputee after an incident in her early childhood.

Nikki is the snarky opposite to Priya. She loves her powers and the attention it affords her, but her biggest fear is to be forgotten or not accepted by others. Nikki is awkward but puts on a face of super confidence to hide the fact that she feels like a fish out of water. Despite her cocky attitude, Nikki is also an innovator, and her wild side is useful at times.

Background: South Asian (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka)

**We are committed to diverse, inclusive casting. For every role, please submit qualified performers, without regard to disability, race, age, color, national origin, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other basis prohibited by law.*

AURORA

Audition Side

"PRIYA & NIKKI"

EXT. CITY OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

The inky sky burns with fractured bolts of energy. A deadly storm is coming.

In the sand dunes outside the city PRIYA (9), burning with anger, faces off against her twin, NIKKI (9). Priya telekinetically lifts boulders at her sister. Nikki psychically tosses them aside.

NIKKI

Just let me explain!

PRIYA

Explain what?! How you lied to me?!

Priya encases Nikki in a cage of sand; Nikki blasts herself out of it.

NIKKI

I was just a kid! I didn't know what I was doing!

PRIYA

You knew EXACTLY what you were doing! And you hid it from me!

(voice quivering)

I trusted you, Nikki. I thought we were sisters.

NIKKI

(quiet, vulnerable)

We ARE sisters.

Priya looks as if she's going to break for a second, as if she believes her twin. Then the pain rises back to the top and she hurls a wave of rocks to rain down on Nikki, who narrowly avoids the attack.

Priya, exhausted, turns her back and walks away, into the wasteland beyond. Nikki follows.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Where are you going??

Priya doesn't respond, just keeps walking.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

(worried)

A storm is coming soon, we have to head back.

(reaches for Priya's arm)

Priya, come on -

PRIYA

(wrenches away)

I'm not going ANYWHERE with you.
I'd rather take my chances in the
wastelands.

NIKKI

(stubborn)

Then I'm coming with you.

PRIYA

No! I don't want to be around you
EVER AGAIN. You're a freak of
nature, why would I ever trust you
again?

This hurts Nikki, deeply. She buries the pain under anger,
like her sister.

NIKKI

Fine! Go get swallowed by a
sandstorm for all I care! You were
slowing my training down anyway!
What do I need a weakling following
me around for?!

Tears pierce both their eyes. Nikki quickly wipes hers away.
Priya stops, allowing herself to feel the sadness. She turns
to Nikki.

PRIYA

(sad)

For ages it was just me and my cat.
I stopped believing I could trust
people. Till I met you.

(beat, sadness deepens)

I thought we were friends.

Nikki is still hard against her pain. She doesn't - *can't* -
show she's just as vulnerable as Priya.

NIKKI

Friends? We were...just training
partners. That's why the Black Rose
put us together.

PRIYA

(quiet)

So that's it? You only care about
being the hero?

NIKKI

That's ALL THERE IS. When are you going to get that through your head, Priya? I can't let anyone stop me from becoming the true savior.

Priya shakes her head, sad not just for her but for Nikki.

PRIYA

Then you'll never have a real friend.

NIKKI

(stubborn as hell)
Who needs friends?! I've got a whole world that cares about me! That needs me!

PRIYA

They need you like they need big walls and sturdy gates. They don't need you like I needed you.

Nikki wavers for a second. Does anyone *really* need her?

NIKKI

You're just jealous that I'm the more powerful savior.

PRIYA

(shakes her head)
You just don't get it.

She turns and starts walking towards the wastelands. A flash of worry crosses Nikki's face.

NIKKI

Priya! PRIYA!

But her sister won't turn around. She keeps walking.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

If you're expecting me to come save you, don't hold your breath!
(beat, Priya keeps walking)
Fine! Go off and get lost, what do I care?!

Nikki keeps watching though, because it's clear she *does* care. Finally she scowls and walks back to the gates.

END SCENE.

INT. BLACK ROSE SECRET COMPOUND - DAY

PRIYA (9) is "juggling" a bunch of rocks, levitating them around her for fun. NIKKI (9), her identical twin, lies on the ground watching, bored.

NIKKI

You've been playing with those rocks for HOURS.

Priya lowers the rocks, feeling self-conscious.

PRIYA

Rocks are my friends.

NIKKI

Rocks are NOT your friends. Rocks are rocks.

PRIYA

Fine Miss Geology. What do YOU wanna do?

NIKKI

I wanna get out there, where the action is! Why do Karun and Jin get to have all the fun?

PRIYA

I dunno if they think fighting off deadly sandstorms is "fun."

NIKKI

I do! It's an adventure! Don't you hate being cooped up like babies?

Priya's not paying attention. She's surreptitiously trying to play with her rock friends again.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

(impatient)

Priya!

PRIYA

(drops rock friend)

What! I'm just asking Lee what he thinks...

NIKKI

(you've got to be kidding)

You *named* the rocks.

Priya stands there awkwardly for a beat. She then points to the two rocks closest to her.

PRIYA

That's Lee and that's Ying. They're dating.

Nikki shakes her head in disbelief.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

...and they agree with you. We should make a break for it.

NIKKI

Huh. Big fan of Lee and Ying. Hope they make it.

INT. BLACK ROSE SECRET COMPOUND - FRONT GATE

A GUARD stands in front of the gate. Both sisters' heads poke out around the corner. Quietly, Nikki nudges their TWO PET GIANT CATS towards the Guard. The guard tries not to be bothered as they claw at his cape.

Nikki and Priya walk around the corner whistling loudly and approach the Guard who eyes them suspiciously.

NIKKI

Excuse us, sir...

GUARD

I'm not supposed to talk to you.

NIKKI

Of course. And we'd never ask you to break protocol. We just noticed the awful state of your robes.

The Guard looks down and sees the big rips in his robe.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

As you know, Rule #44 states 'The icon of the Black Rose must never be tarnished.'

GUARD

(shrugs)

Can't leave my post.

NIKKI

OBVIOUSLY. And I'm sure Karun won't mind. Except...didn't he terminate the last guard breaking the dress code?

Nikki's looking at Priya, who stares at her clueless. Nikki elbows her hard.

PRIYA

Ow! I mean - yeah! He threw the guy into Ironside River. No one ever saw him again...

The Guard GULPS and rushes off. Nikki and Priya look at each other with mischievous grins.

EXT. STREETS OF THE CITY - DAY

Priya and Nikki whip through the town square and winding alleys, riding on their giant cats like horses. They're neck and neck.

PRIYA

Last one to the city gate is a sloth-slug!

NIKKI

(pointing)
Hey, is that a lonely rock in need of a friend?

PRIYA

(slows her cat down)
What?! Where??

NIKKI

Made you look!

Nikki takes the lead.

PRIYA

That's cheating!

NIKKI

(laughing)
It's not my fault I'm the clever twin!

Nikki's so smug she doesn't notice: a cart of manure passing in front of her! The cat stops short but Nikki goes flying into the poop! Priya sidles up to the cart.

PRIYA

Yup, *definitely* the clever one!

Priya takes off down the path. Nikki growls and jumps back on her cat, who isn't too pleased by Nikki's smell.

NIKKI

Oh stop complaining; you've rolled around in worse!

Ruhi speeds down the path. Priya looks back, laughing.

PRIYA

(laughs) Man am I glad I'm not downwind right now!

NIKKI

I'm gonna wipe that smile off your face when I win!

The two girls are neck and neck, just a few yards from the gate! The cats sprint to the finish! Both Priya and Nikki slam a hand on the gate at the exact same time.

PRIYA

I beat you!

NIKKI

No way! I beat YOU!

KARUN (O.S.)

I believe it's a tie.

Priya and Nikki turn around and see a VERY annoyed KARUN (40s) behind them. They both audibly GULP.

Nikki points at Priya.

NIKKI

It was all her idea.

PRIYA

Hey!

KARUN

After we get back to the compound we're going to have a long talk about rules.

Karun marches the twins back up the path.

PRIYA

I *knew* I should've just hung out with my rocks.

END SCENE.